

STARBLAZER

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 64

16p



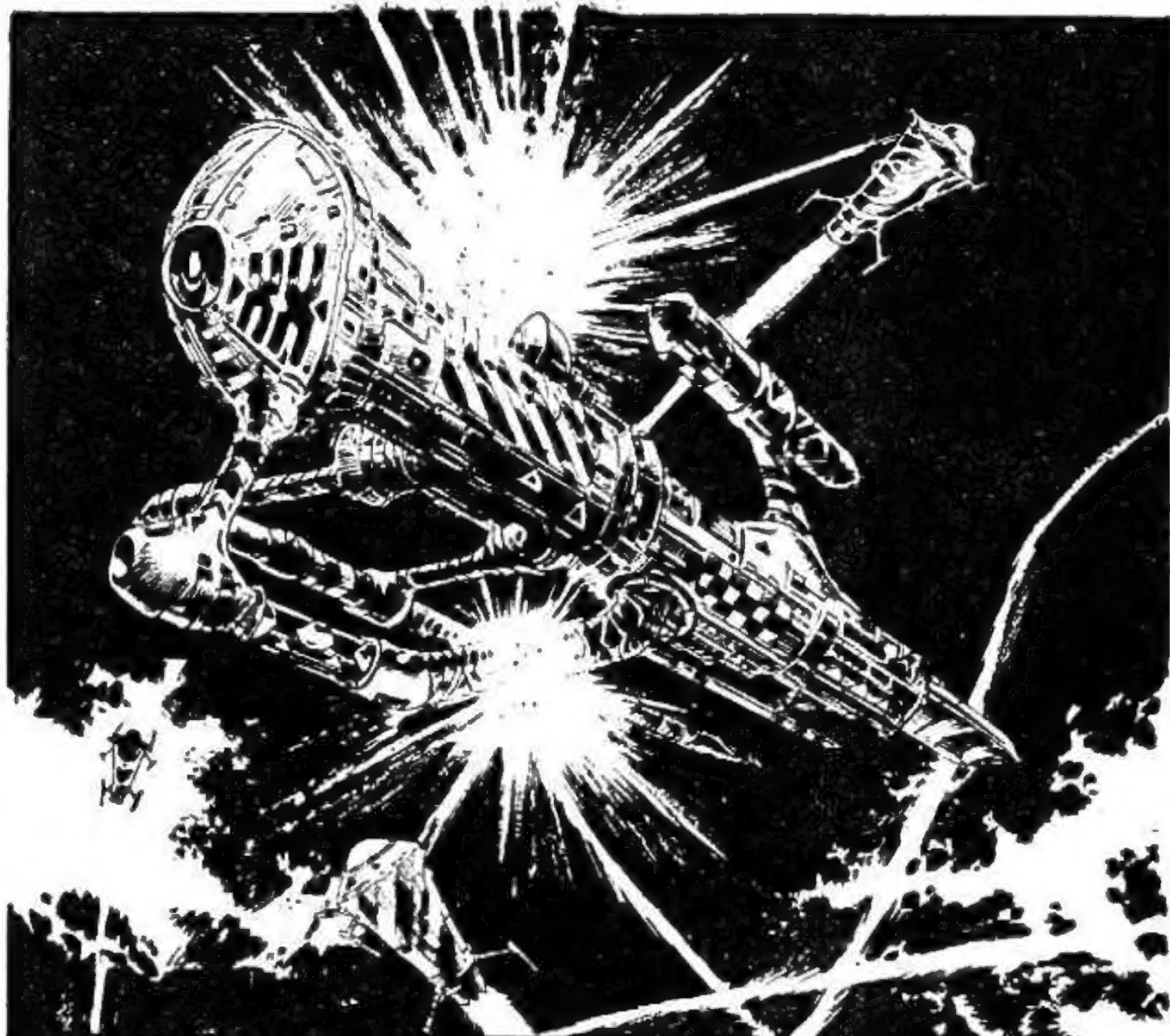
THE EXTERMINATOR

STARBLAZER



FOUR STAR-SYSTEMS WERE UNDER EARTH CONTROL—SOL, BARNARD, CENTAURI AND CYGNUS. THE SYSTEMS WERE FILLED WITH TERRAFORMED WORLDS, AS WELL AS LESS ADAPTED ONES—AND HUMANITY HAD BECOME AS VARIED IN SIZE AND SHAPE AS THE PLANETS ON WHICH THEY LIVED. YET, LAW AND ORDER WAS STILL A THING MEN HOPED FOR, AND NEVER SEEMED TO FIND. ONE MAN SET OUT TO ESTABLISH LAW, AND EXTINGUISH CRIME.

THE EXTERMINATOR



A ROUTINE VOYAGE FROM GANYMEDE TO INFANTANO TURNED INTO A NIGHTMARE FOR THE CREW AND PASSENGERS OF THE CYGNAN STARLINER, GILCAYN. FIVE LIGHT YEARS FROM SOL THE HUGE LINER WAS ATTACKED BY A FLIGHT OF UNMARKED STAR-FRIGATES.

ATTENTION GILCAYN
ONE OF MY CREWS WILL
BOARD YOU. THERE WILL
BE NO ATTEMPT AT
RESISTANCE.

WILL COMPLY.

BUT THE GILCAYN SECURITY FORCE ON BOARD THE STARLINER WASN'T PREPARED TO GIVE UP.

THEY'RE COMING! I CAN
HEAR THE MAGNO-GRAPPLES!

STEADY, GLAVE!

THE ATTACKERS BURST IN —

YOU WERE TOLD
NOT TO RESIST.



GLAVE QUESTOR, A YOUNG TERRAN SECURITY OFFICER WAS ON HIS FIRST VICTORY

KIRBY! PULL BACK, I'LL COVER YOU



THEY HAD THEIR CHANCE! KILL THEM!

GLAVE FIRED AN INSTANT BEFORE THE INTRUDER.



GET BACK INTO "B" SECTION... ACTIVATE THE
RADIATION DOOR... WE'LL BE SAFE BEHIND THAT
FOR A BIT. GO — I'LL COVER YOU.





GET THAT ONE!
USE GELLIES!



THE ADHESIVE "GELLIES" — GELATACH NEUTRON DEVICES — WERE LETHAL EXPLOSIVES DESIGNED TO CAUSE MAXIMUM DAMAGE IN AN ENCLOSED SPACE.



THE BLAST LIFTED GLAVE OFF HIS FEET —

ONE DEAD, ONE DYING —
PUT HIM INTO THE LIFEBOAT.



TWO PAKSECS LATER, GLAVE WAS PICKED UP BY A SECURITY VESSEL.



DON'T TRY TALKING, BOY — YOU'RE BADLY HURT. THIS MED-SHIP FISHED YOU OUT OF A LIFEBOAT A DAY AGO, AND WE TREATED YOU AS WELL AS WE COULD. WE'LL BE LANDING IN A COUPLE OF HOURS.



WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?

TWO SECURITY GUARDS DEAD AND THE PASSENGERS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP. THE SHIP'S VANISHED, ALONG WITH ONE PASSENGER — A DR DREW.

I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR ARM. YOU'D BEEN IN SPACE ABOUT A DAY, I'D RECKON, BEFORE WE FOUND YOU, AND THE WOUND WAS TOO FAR GONE TO ENABLE US TO DO MUCH WITH THE SIMPLE EQUIPMENT ON BOARD ...



WEEKS LATER, IN THE OFFICES OF GALACTIC SECURITY

THEN I'M
DISMISSED, SIR?

YOU ARE NOT OF THE REQUIRED
STANDARD MEDICALLY. YOU WILL
RECEIVE A DISABILITY PENSION.
BUT BECAUSE OF YOUR ...
ER ... SHORTCOMINGS YOU ARE
NO FURTHER USE TO US.



NEWS OF GLAVE'S "RETIREMENT" REACHED THE EARS OF A PETTY CRIMINAL — ADAMS.



THE JUPITER AND NEPTUNE DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH COMPANY — OPERATES FROM THE JOVIAN MOON OF CALLISTO? AND THEY WANT ME TO GO TO ABRAXAS. WHY?



JANDAR KNOW MY TERMS — I'LL TAKE THE JOB.

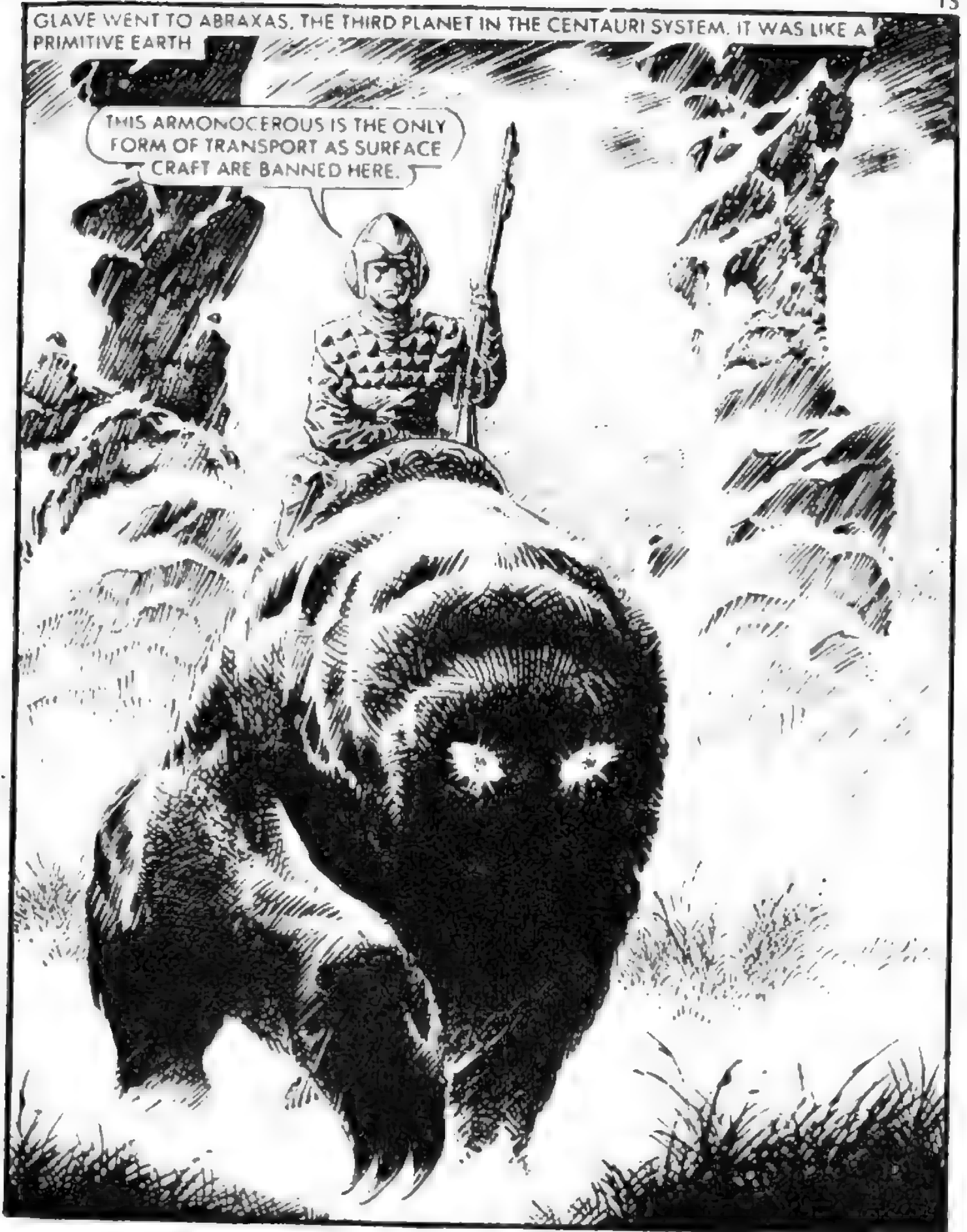


JANDAR HAVE FULL MINING RIGHTS TO ABRAXAS, BUT ANOTHER MINING CORPORATION HAS A FACTORY SHIP THERE. AND NOTHING SHORT OF FORCE IS GOING TO MOVE THEM. JANDAR DOESN'T HAVE THE MEANS TO COUNTER THAT! I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP.



GLAVE WENT TO ABRAXAS, THE THIRD PLANET IN THE CENTAURI SYSTEM. IT WAS LIKE A
PRIMITIVE EARTH

THIS ARMONOCEROUS IS THE ONLY
FORM OF TRANSPORT AS SURFACE
CRAFT ARE BANNED HERE.



GLAVE SOON FOUND THE MASSIVE FACTORY SHIP.



GLAVE'S ADVANCE WAS WATCHED BY BARKA, FROM THE PLANET SYNMARI.

ANOTHER JANDAR AGENT COMES TO BEG US TO LEAVE. I SHALL ENJOY DRAINING HIS LIFE FROM HIM.







GLAVE STUNNED THE SYNMARI.

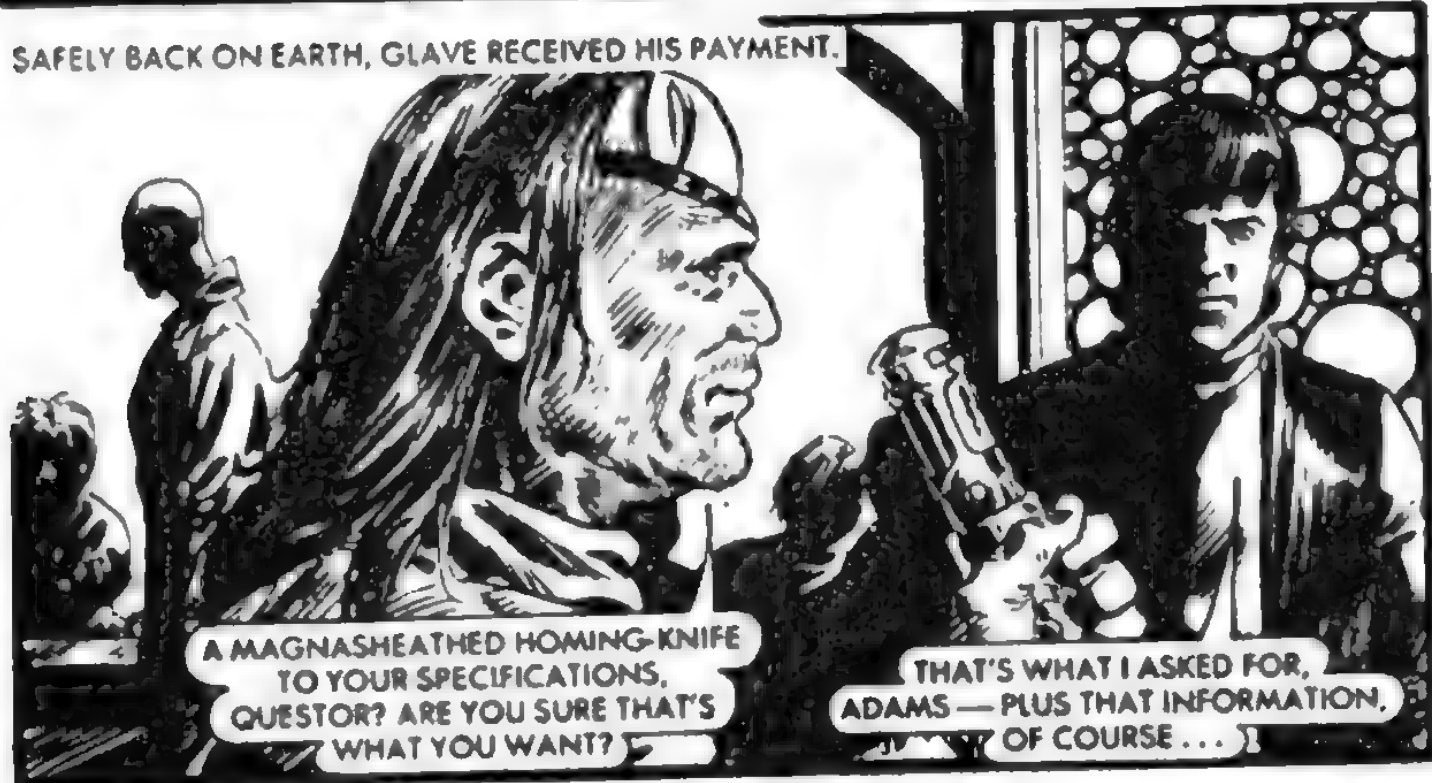


GENTLEMEN, WHILST YOU WERE
BEING SO RUDE TO MY HOLOGRAPH
I HAD THE CHANCE TO GET ABOARD
FOR A WHILE ...





SAFELY BACK ON EARTH, GLAVE RECEIVED HIS PAYMENT.





THE GILCAYN AND THE MISSING DOCTOR... SORRY, NOBODY'S HEARD A THING. WHY, QUESTOR?

I HAVE MY REASONS. ADAMS GOODBYE — AND THANK YOU

GLAVE'S REPUTATION SPREAD, AND THE JANDAR COMPANY EMPLOYED HIM AGAIN — ON THE MERCURY SEAS OF PLUTO.





THIS IS WHERE THE PIRATES
LAST STRUCK, CAPTAIN DETTMAR?

YES. THEY CAME OUT OF
THE WRECK WE'RE APPROACHING.



THAT'S THE WRECK OF THE FALCON,
QUESTOR. ONE OF THE FIRST SHIPS TO
REACH PLUTO.

THE CREW DISCOVERED THE SILICON
PLANKTON THAT LIVE IN THESE SEAS...
JANDAR NOW HAVE THE EXPLORATION
RIGHT.

THE TEMPERATURE ON PLUTO WAS BELOW FREEZING — A COLD NO MAN COULD STAND FOR ANYTHING BUT A FEW FLEETING MINUTES.

I STILL DON'T
LIKE THIS, QUESTOR.

I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO — JUST DO YOUR OWN
JOB.

GLAVE FIRED A NEUTRON
ROCKET AT THE WRECK.



THE WRECK DISINTEGRATED.

IF THAT WAS THEIR BASE,
IT ISN'T NOW.

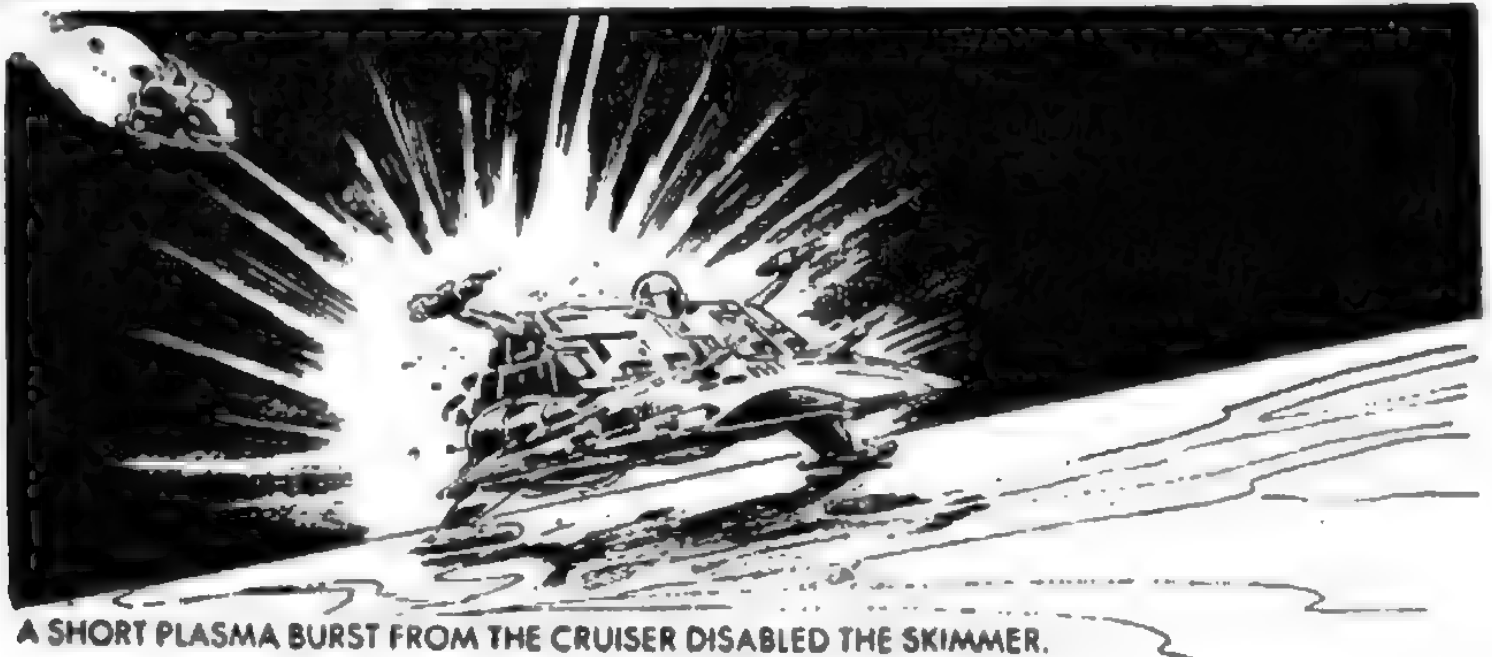
SCANNERS SHOW SPACEVESSEL
CLOSING IN FROM SBLA 2U LD.

THEY WERE QUICK ... SO THEY
MUST HAVE BEEN WATCHING US ...

THE PIRATE CRUISER TURNED INTO AN ATTACK RUN.



THEY KNOW
WE'RE UNARMED.

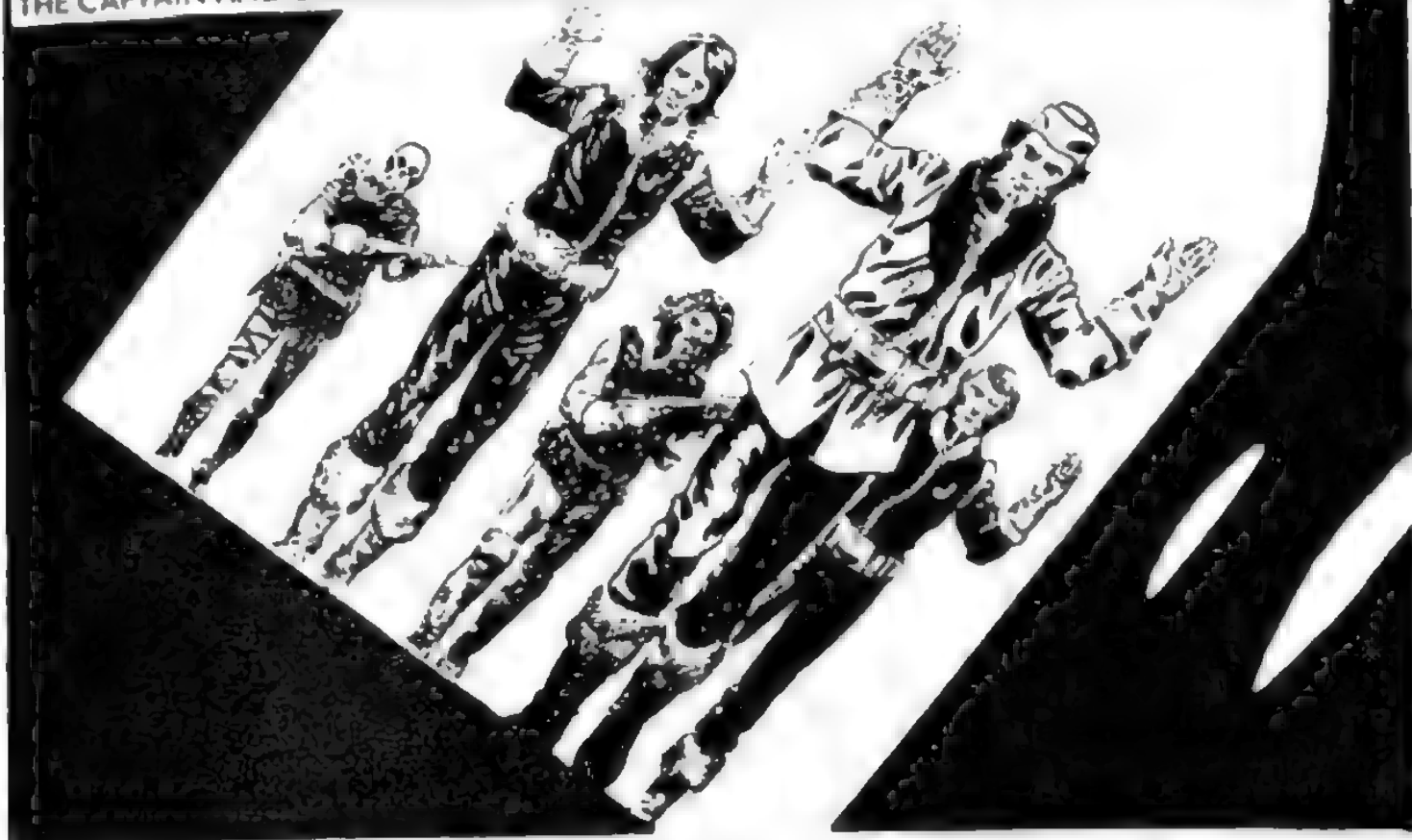


A SHORT PLASMA BURST FROM THE CRUISER DISABLED THE SKIMMER.

A BAND OF PIRATES DESCENDED TO THE SKIMMER.



THE CAPTAIN AND CREW WERE MARCHED INTO THE COLLIER AND TO THE CONTROL AREA.



BUT BEFORE THE PIRATES COULD ENTER, THE HATCH SLAMMED SHUT.

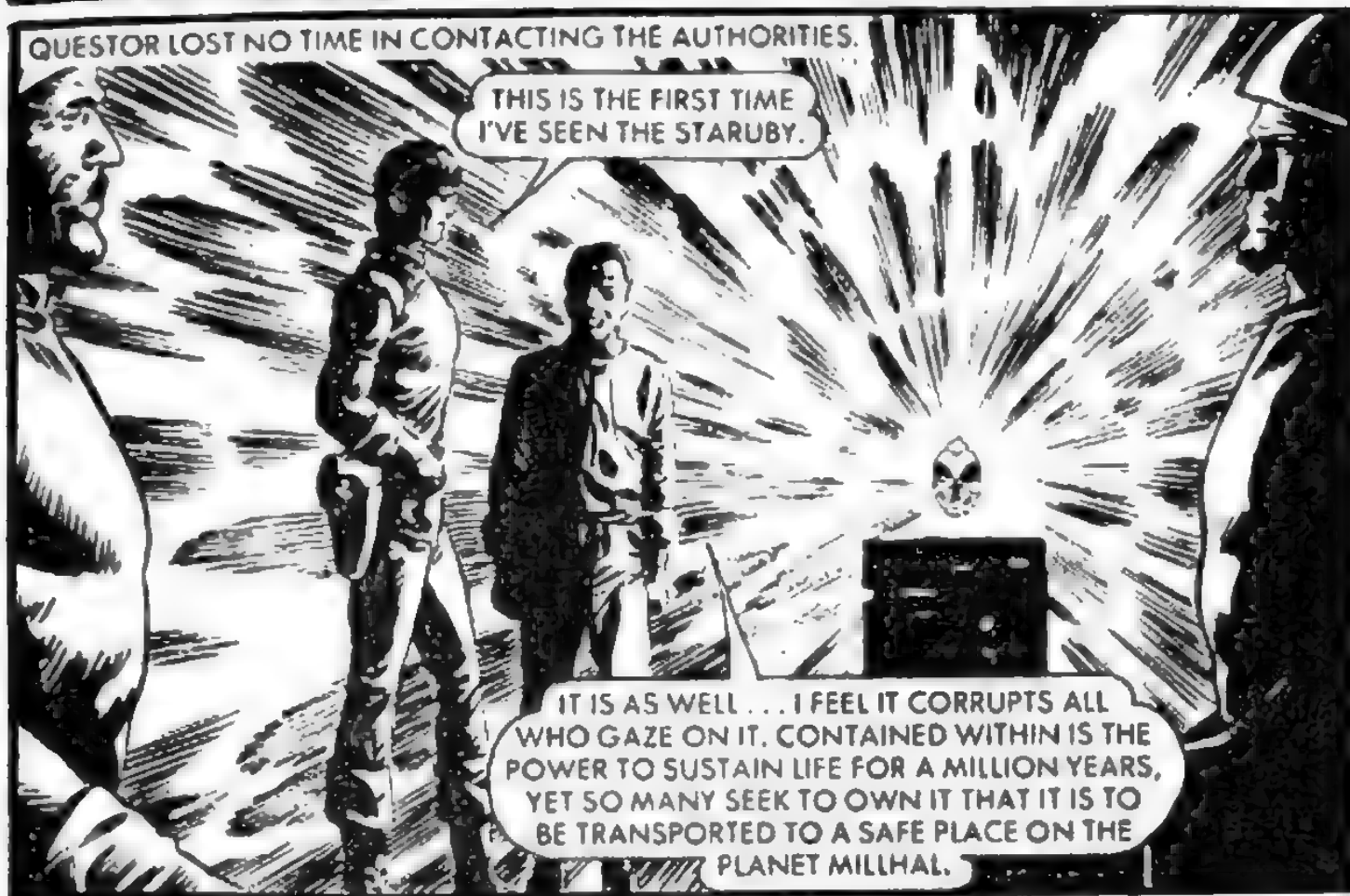
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
WHO'S AT THE CONTROLS?

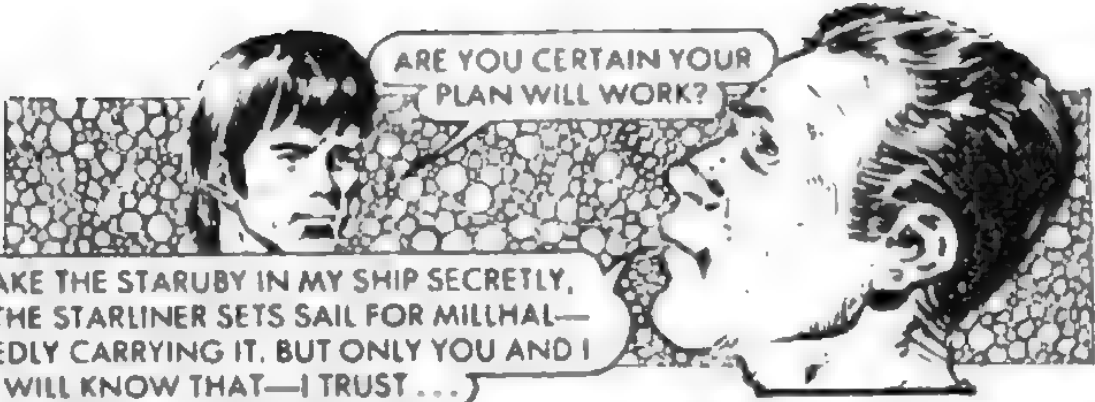




IT TOOK YEARS, BUT GLAVE QUESTOR BUILT UP A REPUTATION FEARED BY THE LAWBREAKER. HE NEVER ACCEPTED CREDITS, ALWAYS A NEW PIECE OF TECHNOLOGY — A SIGNAL BEACON, A SONIC RESONATOR, AN AUDIOPARALYSER... HE BECAME KNOWN AS THE EXTERMINATOR.







ARE YOU CERTAIN YOUR
PLAN WILL WORK?

YES! I TAKE THE STARUBY IN MY SHIP SECRETLY,
WHILST THE STARLINER SETS SAIL FOR MILLHAL—
SUPPOSEDLY CARRYING IT. BUT ONLY YOU AND I
WILL KNOW THAT—I TRUST...



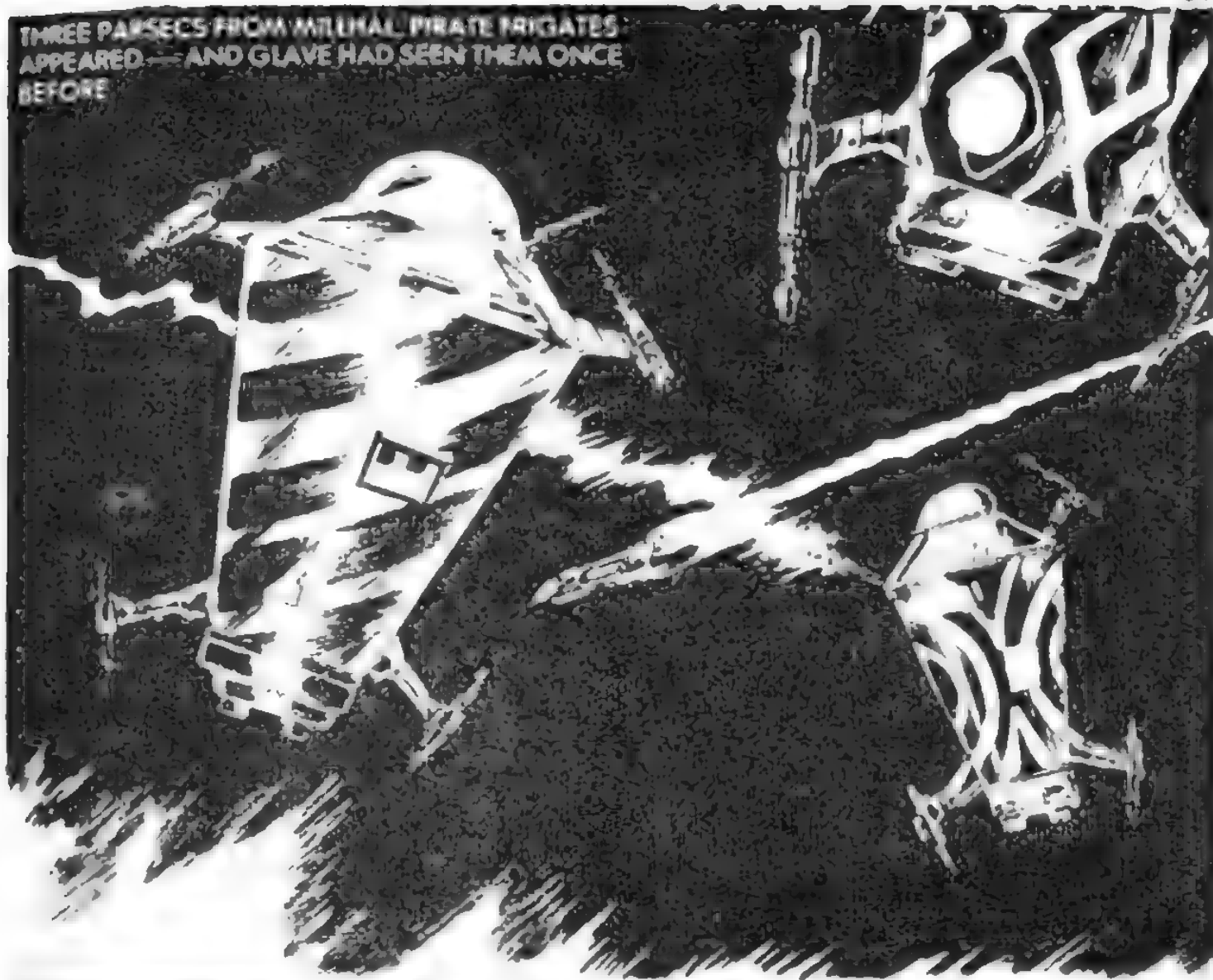
HALF A MILLION MILES FROM EARTH, 34
GLAVE'S SHIP AND THE STARLINER PARTED
COMPANY.

GOOD LUCK.



PROGRAMMING THE AUTOMIND WITH THE BARNARD SYSTEM'S SPACIAL CO-ORDINATES
GLAVE SETTLED BACK FOR A QUIET VOYAGE.

THREE PARSECS FROM MILIAL, PIRATE FRIGATES
APPEARED. — AND GLAVE HAD SEEN THEM ONCE
BEFORE



THE FRIGATES THAT ATTACKED THE
GILCAYN! NOW MAYBE I CAN GET
SOME ANSWERS.

DODGING THE FRIGATE'S ATOMIC BEAMS EFFORTLESSLY, GLAVE REPLIED WITH THREE PLASMA CANNON.

HE'S GOING TO
ESCAPE US!



BUT ESCAPE WAS THE LAST THING ON GLAVE'S MIND —

I NEED ONLY
ONE SHIP INTACT.



THE WARP VORTEX PROJECTOR HAD BEEN DEVELOPED ON EARTH. IT TWISTED EVEN THE VACUUM OF INTERSTELLAR SPACE INTO STOMACH-CURDLING KNOTS. GLAVE'S CRUISER WAS THE ONLY SHIP TO BE EQUIPPED WITH IT — PAYMENT FOR A JOB WELL DONE.





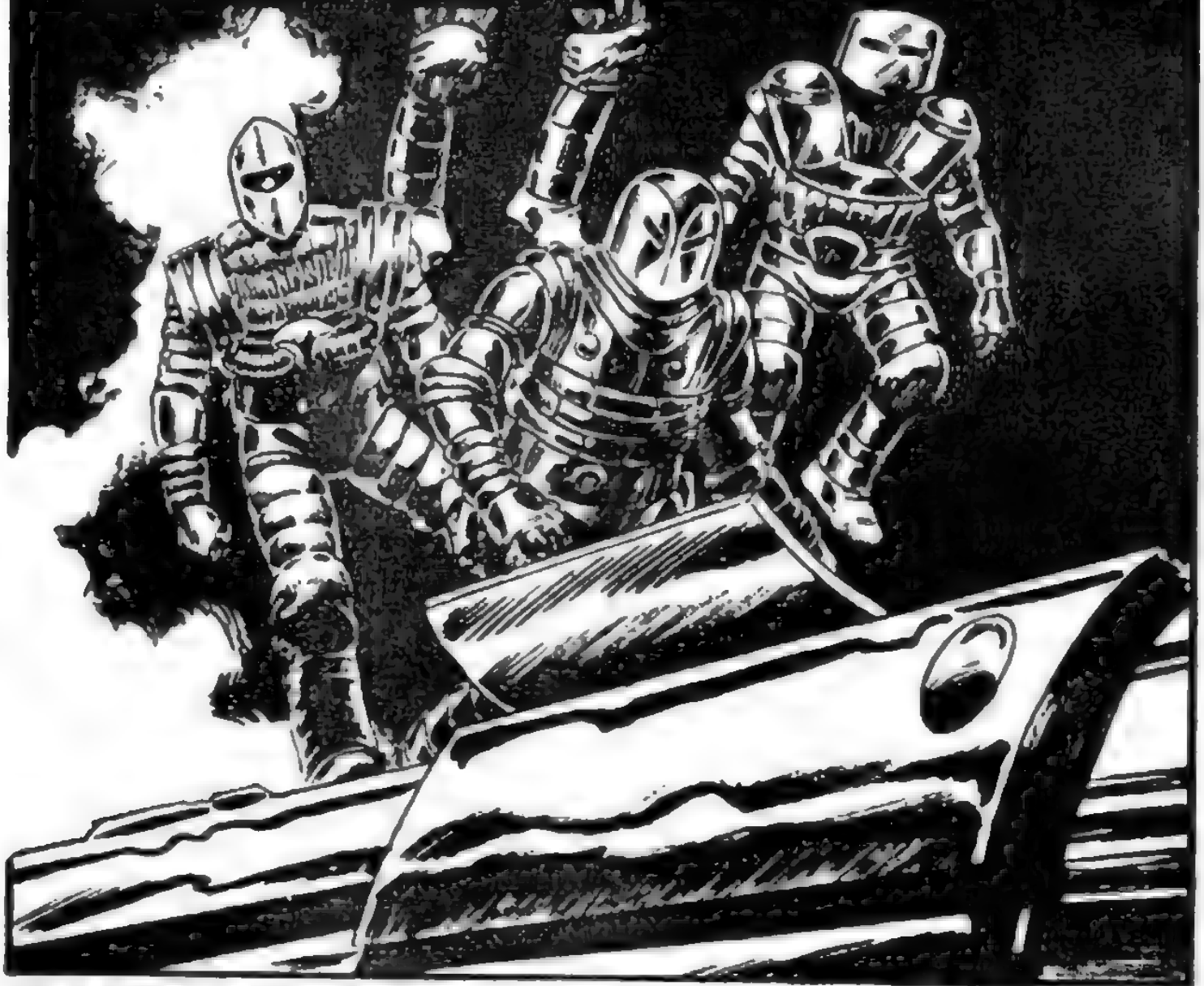
I'D BETTER FINISH
THIS — FAST!



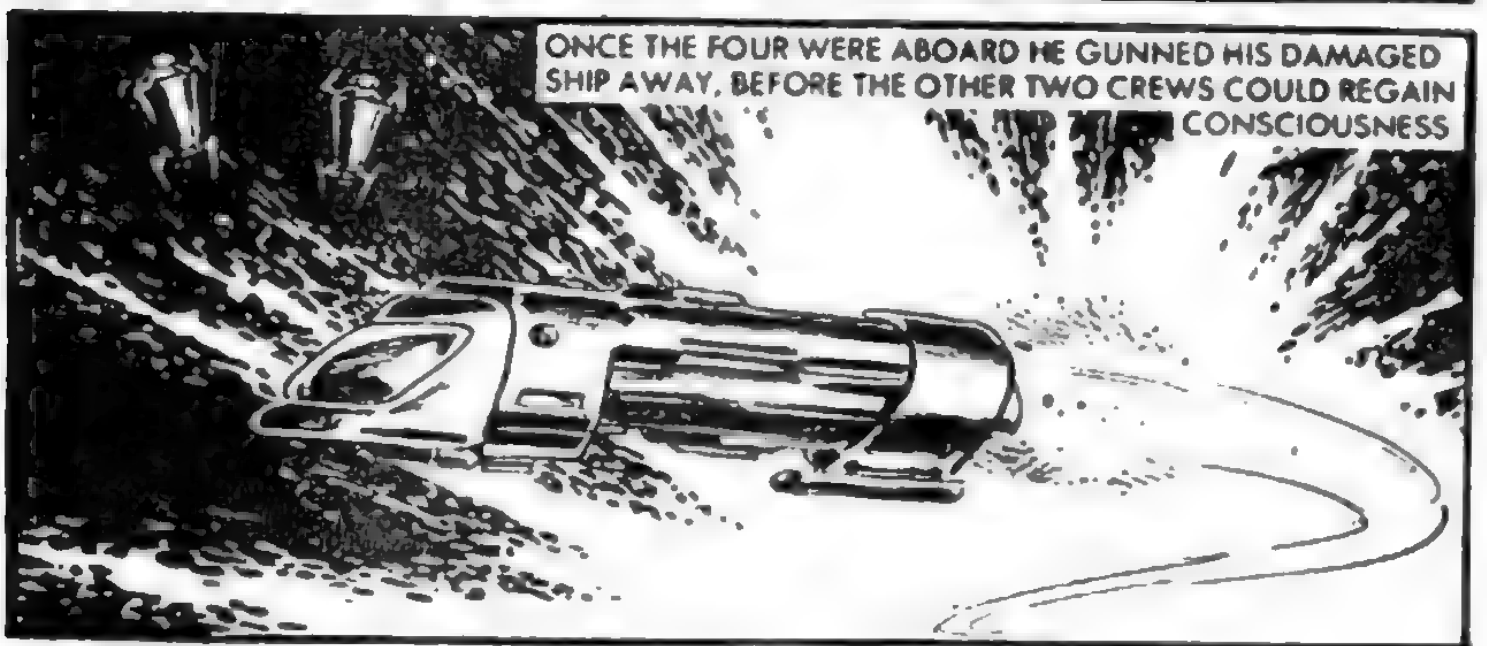
ATTENTION, FRIGATE! YOU ARE
HOLED IN THREE PLACES AND
LOSING ATMOSPHERE RAPIDLY.
SURRENDER, AND I'LL ALLOW YOU
ABOARD MY SHIP. REFUSE — AND I
THINK YOU'VE JUST GOT TEN
MINUTES...

AGREED. THERE ARE
FOUR OF US LEFT...

THE FOUR SURVIVORS APPEARED VERY QUICKLY.



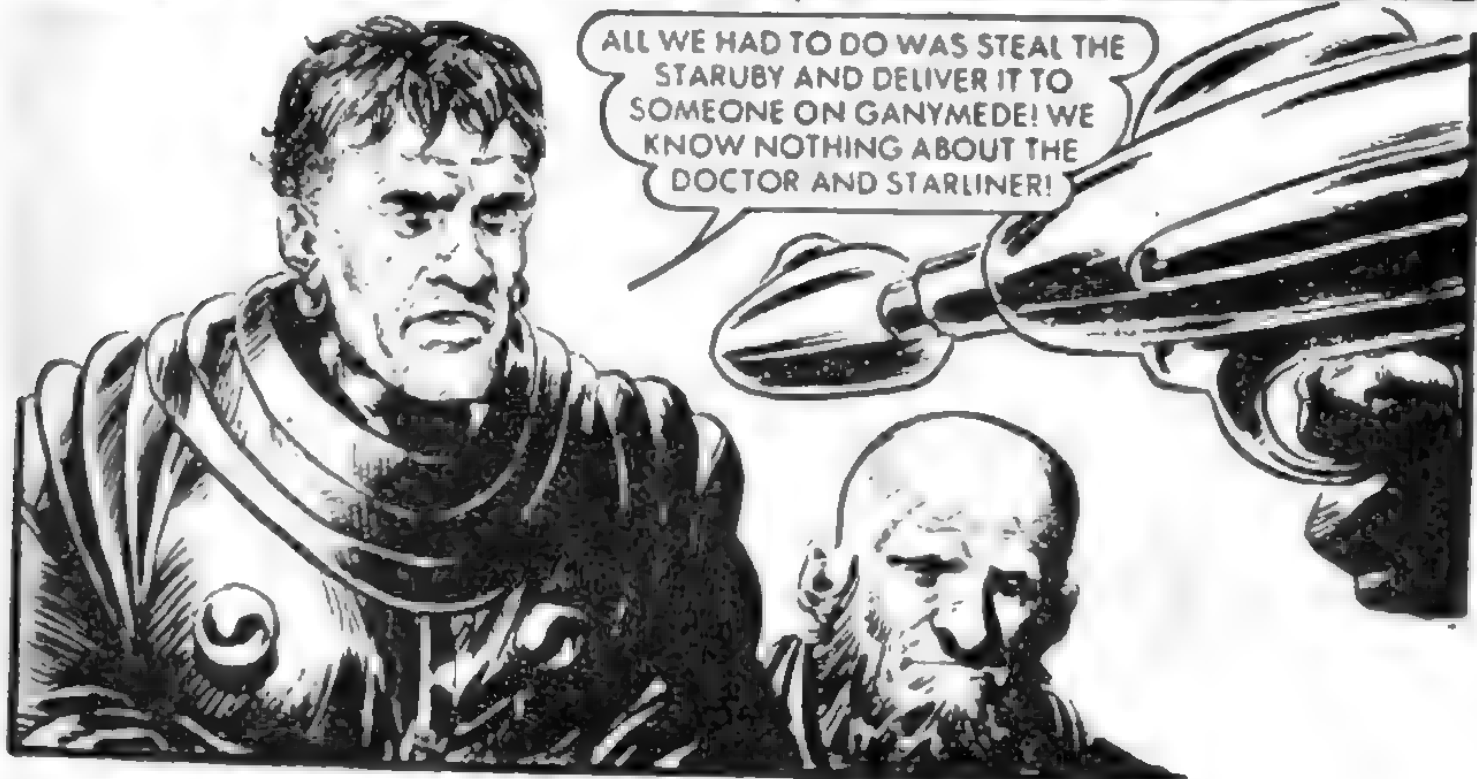
ONCE THE FOUR WERE ABOARD HE GUNNED HIS DAMAGED SHIP AWAY, BEFORE THE OTHER TWO CREWS COULD REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS

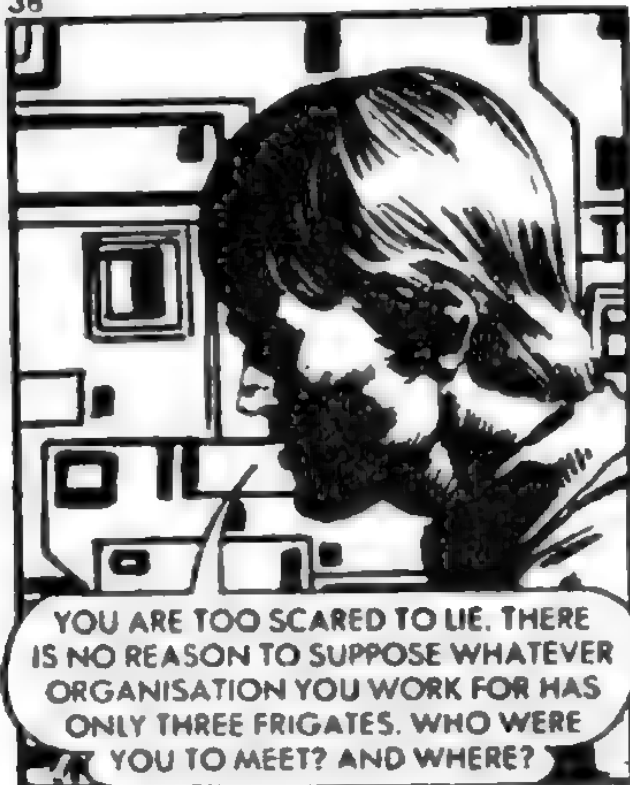


YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME A FEW THINGS... WHO ARE YOU WORKING FOR? WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GILCAYN? WHERE'S DR DREW? AND WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO WITH THE DARASTINE STARUBY?



ALL WE HAD TO DO WAS STEAL THE STARUBY AND DELIVER IT TO SOMEONE ON GANYMEDE! WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE DOCTOR AND STARLINER!





VANDERDECKEN WAS THE SPACEMAN'S LEGEND. A ROGUE WORLD THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO DRIFT THROUGH THE GALAXY, HAVING NO STAR SYSTEM OF ITS OWN.





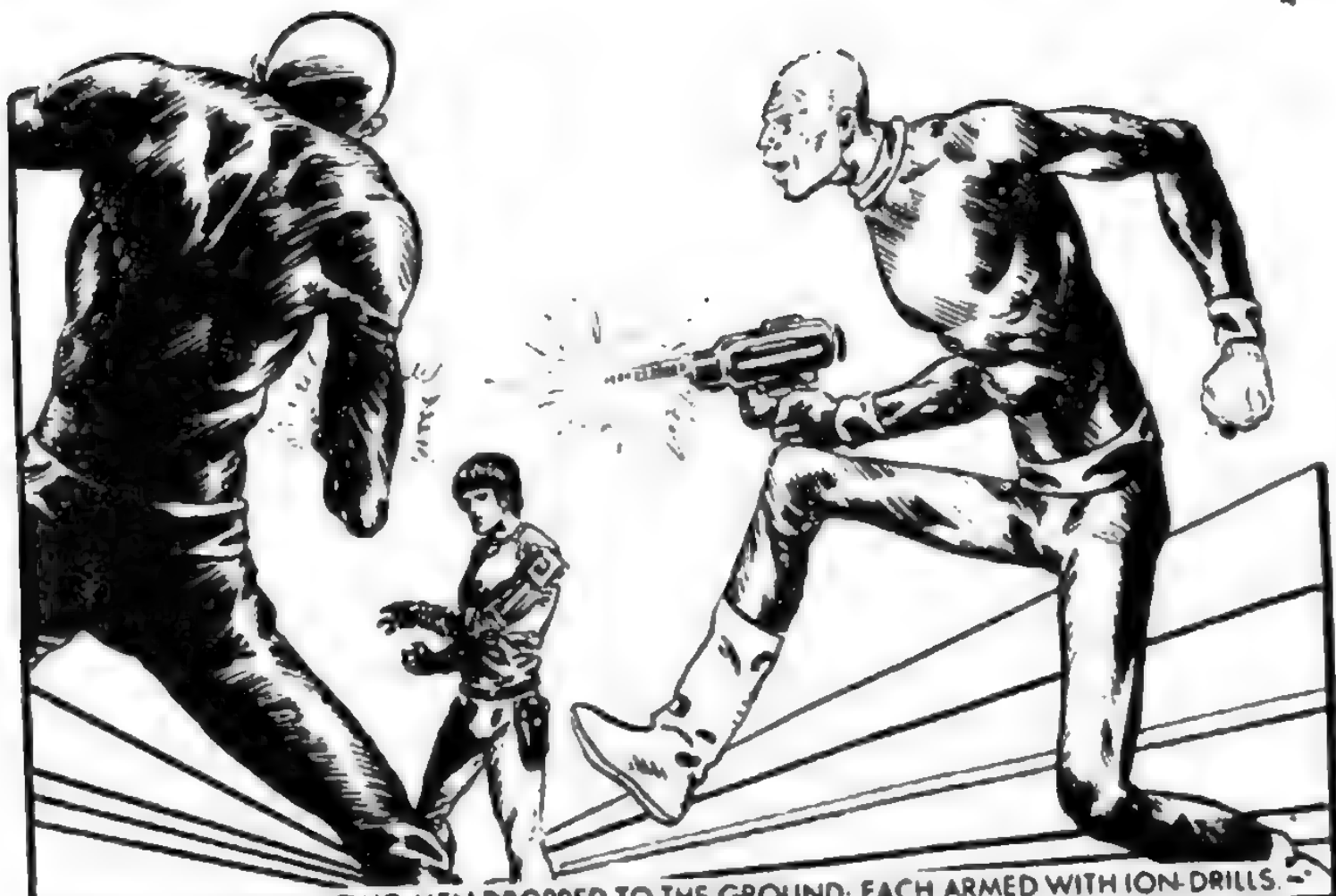
HE RECEIVED AN ARM AS HIS FEE — POWERED BY A MINIATURE FUSION REACTOR, IT INCORPORATED A DEADLY NEUTRON BEAMER — THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE WEAPON IN THE FOUR SYSTEMS.



GLAVE TRAVELLED TO GANYMEDE, A HUGE INTERSTELLAR SPACEPORT

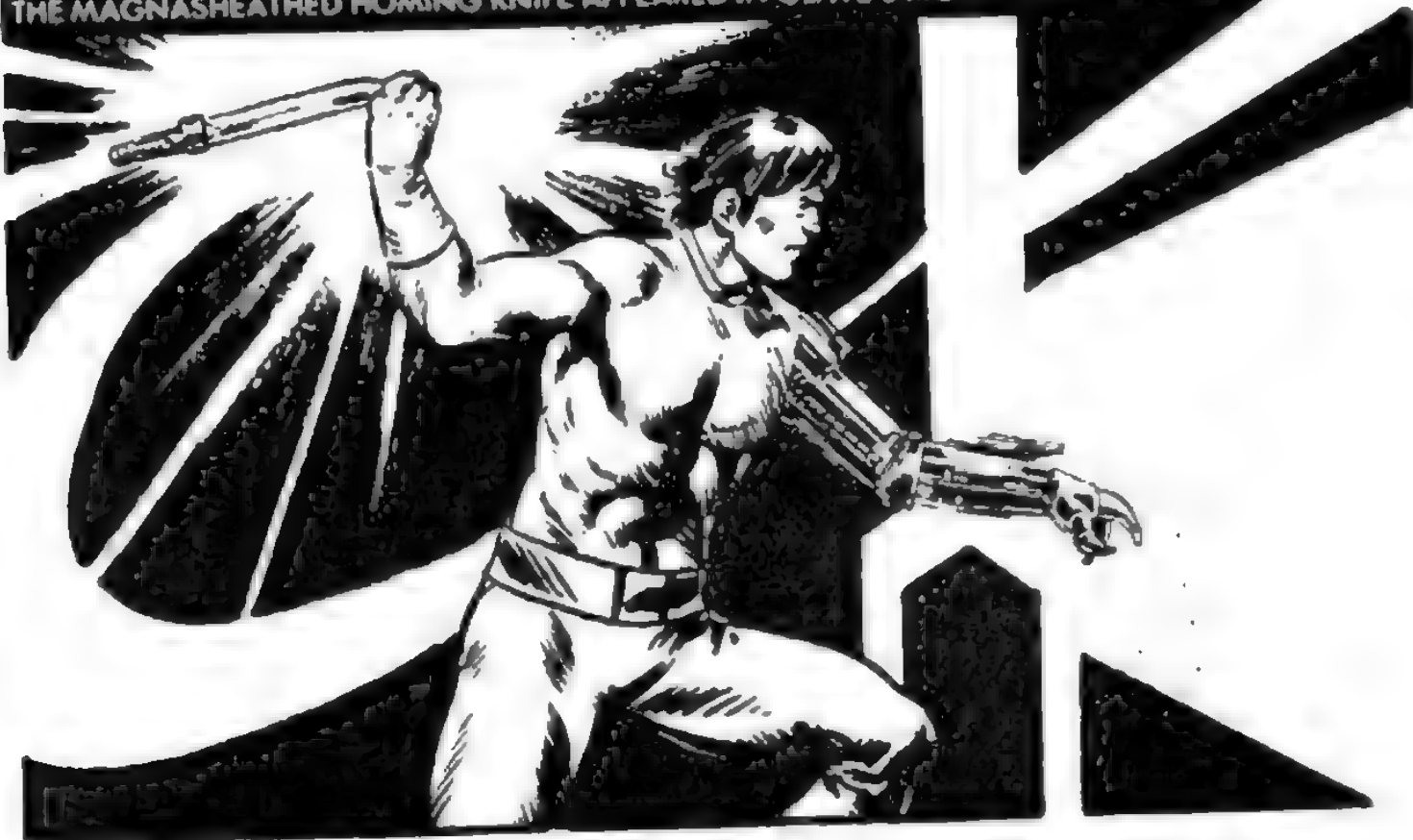


THE SPACEPORT IS THE
OBVIOUS PLACE TO
START LOOKING FOR A
CONTACT.



WITHOUT WARNING, TWO MEN DROPPED TO THE GROUND: EACH ARMED WITH ION-DRILLS.

THE MAGNASHEATHED HOMING KNIFE APPEARED IN GLAVE'S RIGHT HAND.





GLAVE'S SPEED OVERCAME THE SECOND ASSASSIN.





GLAVE HOLSTERED HIS GUN AND CAUGHT THE RETURNING HOMING KNIFE — WHICH VANISHED INTO ITS SHEATH BENEATH HIS CUFF AS SUDDENLY AS IT HAD APPEARED.



WHY WOULD THESE TWO MINERS WANT TO KILL ME?



COMRADES OF THE NINE! IT GOES A LONG WAY TO EXPLAINING EVERYTHING!

COMRADES OF THE NINE WERE AN INTERSTELLAR TERRORIST GROUP WHOSE AIM WAS TOTAL BREAKDOWN OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.



RUNNING FOOTSTEPS ANNOUNCED THE LATE ARRIVAL OF THE MOON'S SECURITY.

I'VE ALREADY DEALT
WITH THE DISTURBANCE.



GLAVE EXPLAINED WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

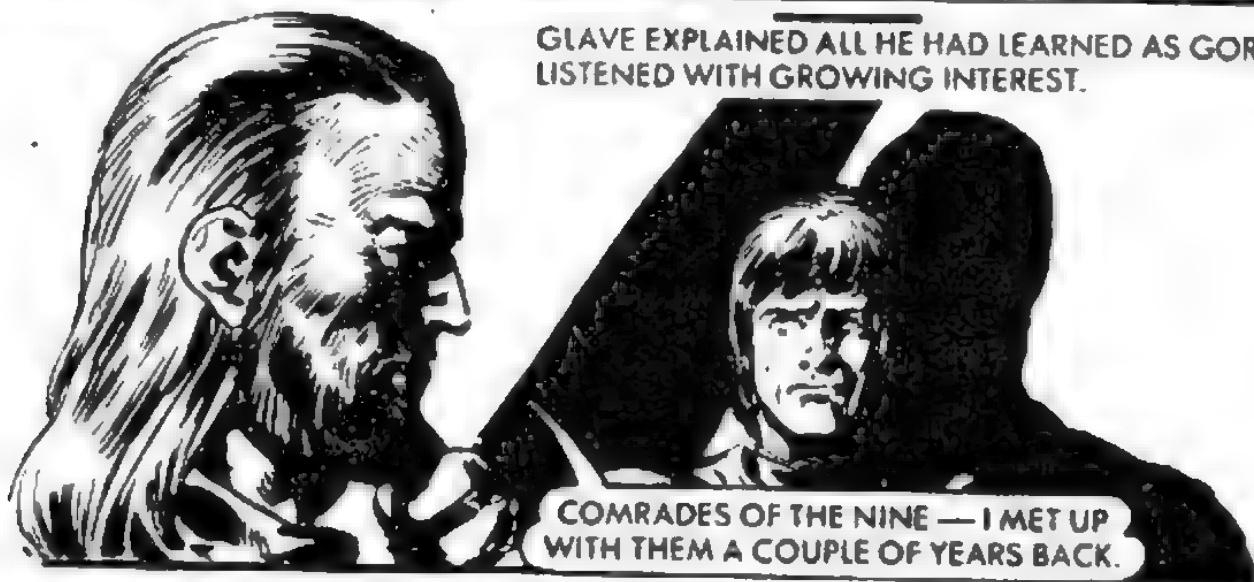


OKAY, QUESTOR, GO BUT DON'T STICK AROUND
GANYMEDE TOO LONG. DEATH FOLLOWS YOU
ABOUT.





GLAVE EXPLAINED ALL HE HAD LEARNED AS GORDON LISTENED WITH GROWING INTEREST.



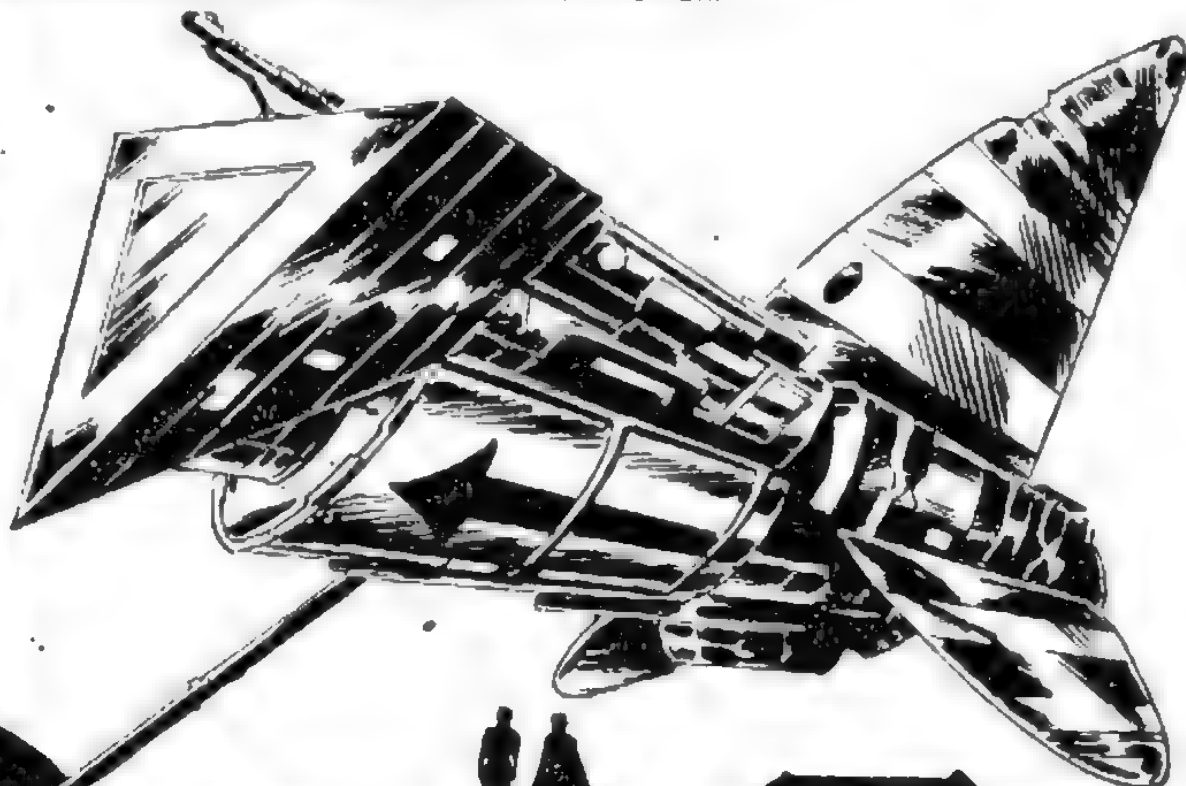
IT'S MY ONLY LEAD.
I HAVE TO TRY IT.



THERE'S A LINER SOON ...
I'VE BEEN VEGETATING ON
THIS MOON FOR TOO LONG—
MIND IF I COME ALONG?

MAYBE I'LL NEED YOUR BLASTER
AT MY BACK AT THAT!

THE TWO MEN MADE THEIR WAY TO THE CYGNUS STARLINER.



THE GIANT STARLINER BLASTED INTO DEEP SPACE.



I ALWAYS HATE SPACE JUMPING —
IT TURNS MY STOMACH INSIDE-OUT!

I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT THE
LAST TIME I MADE THIS TRIP ...



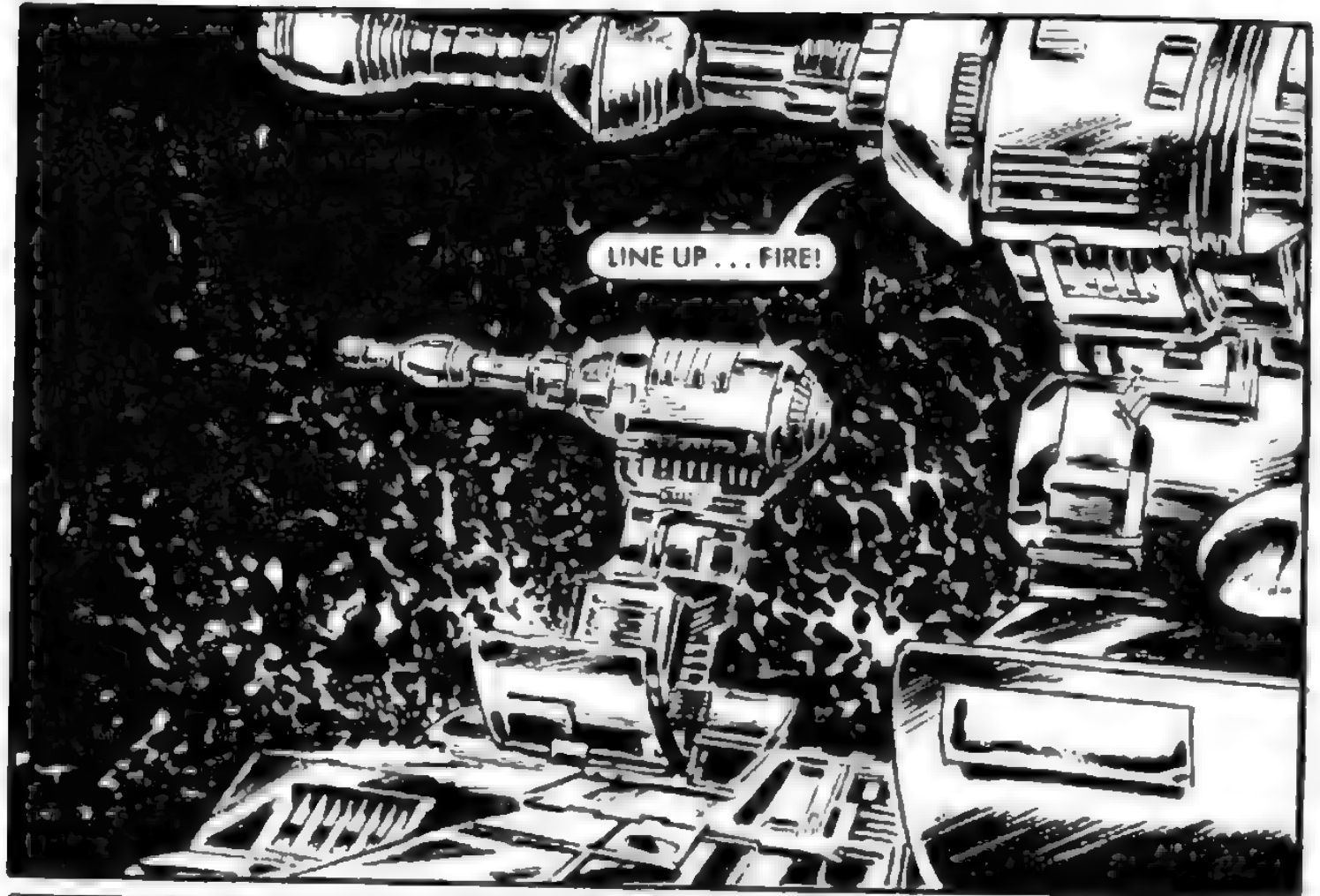
AS THE STARLINER CAME OUT OF HYPERDRIVE



SINCE THE GILCAYN ATTACK, CONCEALED WEAPONS SYSTEMS HAD BEEN INSTALLED ON LINERS.



OKAY, SKIPPER ...
CANNON REVEALED.



THE MULTIPLE ACTION PHOTON PULSARS BLASTED OUT.



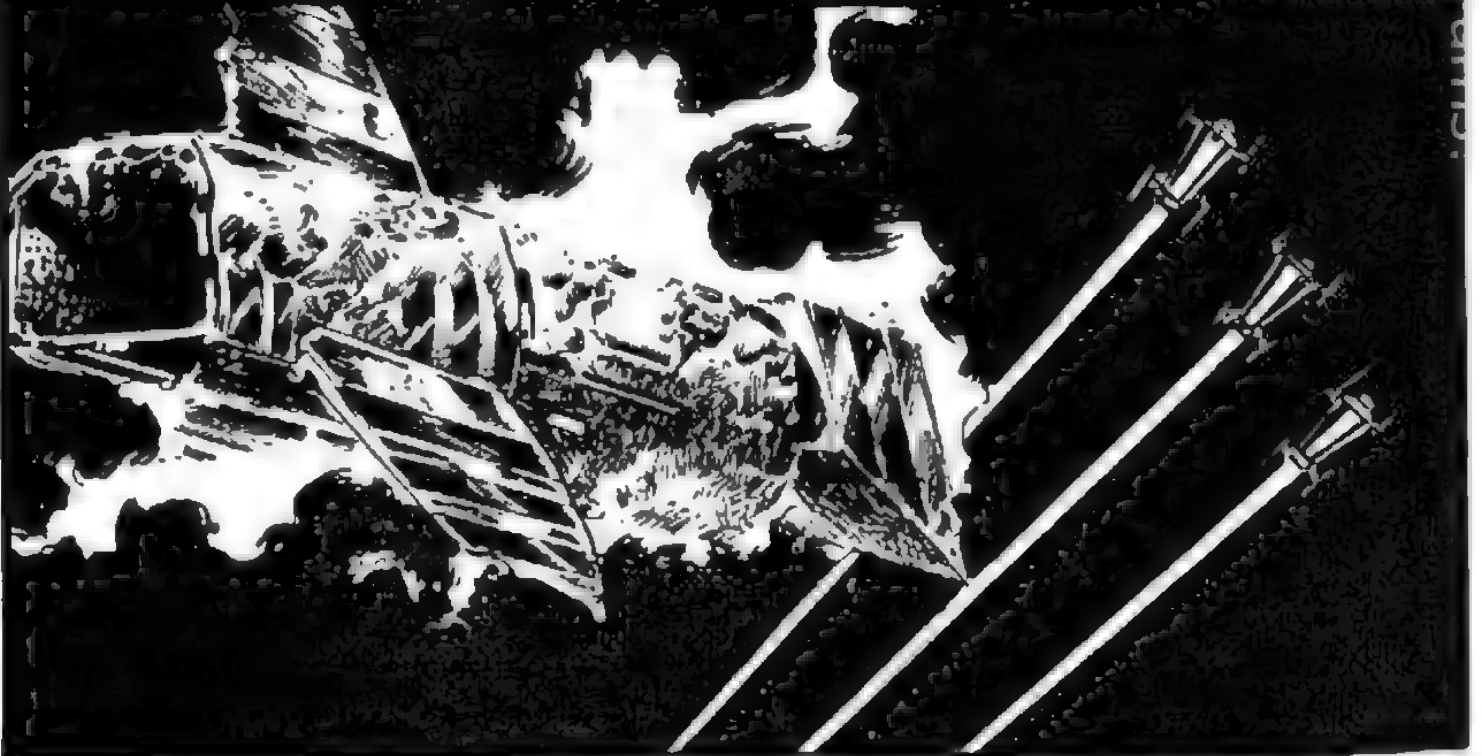





DESPITE SOME SUCCESS THE STARLINER GUNNERS WERE SILENCED.



WITH GLAVE ABOARD, THE FRIGATES LEFT THE DAMAGED LINER TO HER REPAIRS.



ON BOARD THE FRIGATE, GLAVE LEARNED A LITTLE MORE ABOUT HIS CAPTORS — AND HIS EX-FRIEND.



WHEN I LEFT SPACE SECURITY I JOINED THIS GROUP. WHEN ONE OF THE NINE DIED, I WAS APPOINTED. NOW I AM SECOND IN COMMAND.

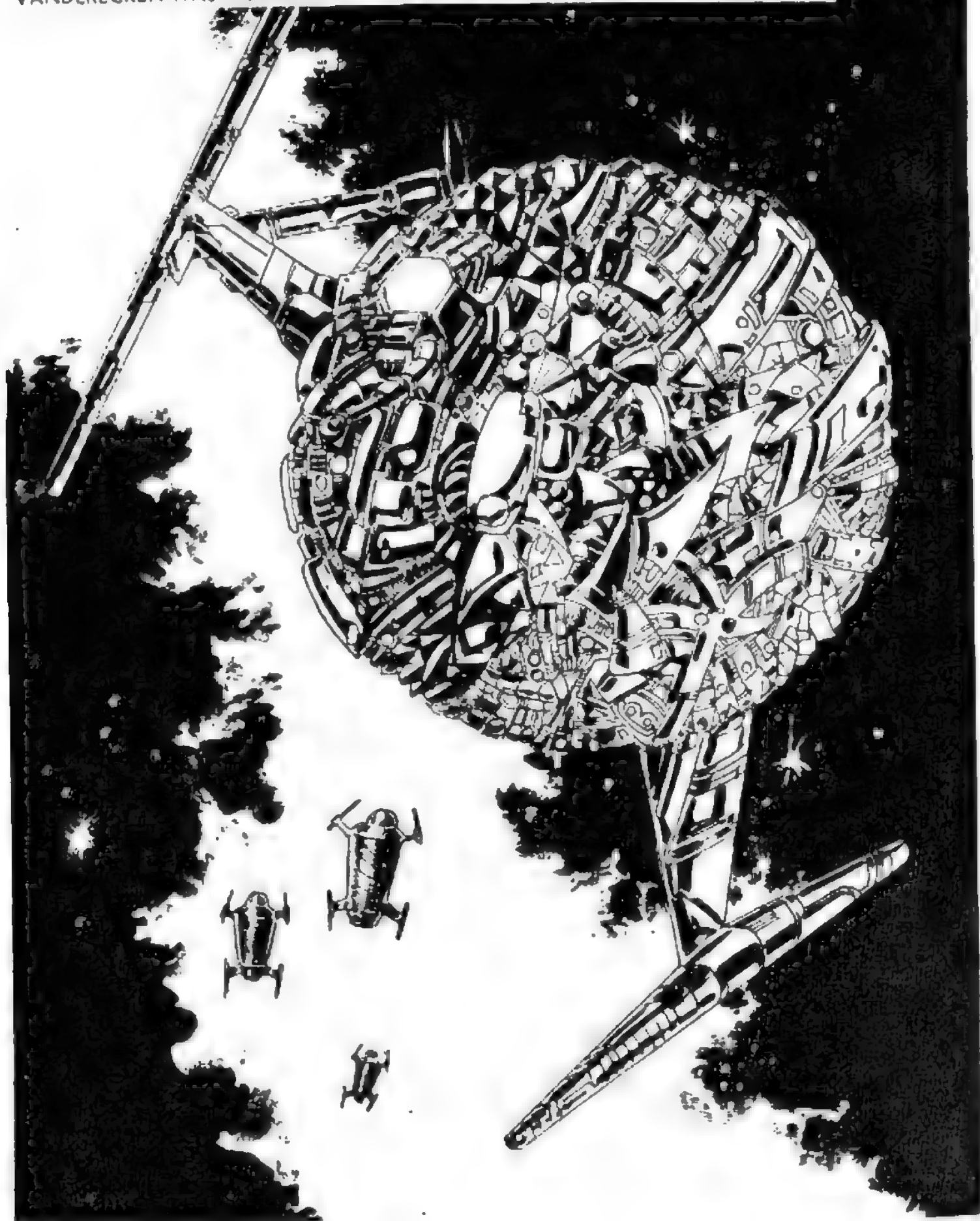


AND WHERE MIGHT WE BE GOING NOW?



TO VANDERDECKEN.

VANDERECKEN WAS A SELF-CONTAINED CITY PLANET — A MOBILE WAR MACHINE.



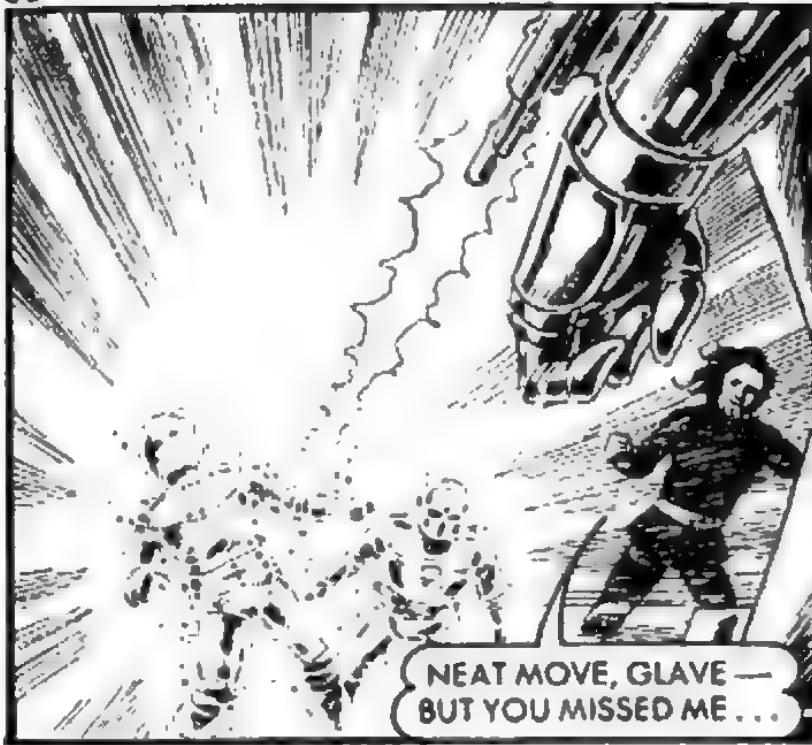


AFTER A HUNDRED MILLION YEARS IT'S STILL FUNCTIONAL. WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT WHO OR WHAT BUILT IT—OR WHY IT'S BEEN DRIFTING EMPTY FOR SO LONG. WE DO KNOW THE DARASTINE STARUBY WAS WHAT WE NEEDED TO MAKE IT INVULNERABLE—YOU INTERFERED.

AFTER DOCKING, GLAVE WAS MARCHED DOWN MILES OF CORRIDOR.

TIME FOR ACTION.

A WEAK NEUTRON FIELD IS ENOUGH TO DISTRACT THEM.



A FULL-CHARGE NEUTRON BLAST LIQUIDISED METAL... AND HUMAN BEINGS.



GLAVE BEGAN A SWIFT SEARCH THROUGH THE VAST ALIEN VESSEL.



AT A GUESS, THIS IS THE PLACE.
NO TIME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF...




GLAVE BLASTED THE GUARDS AND THE DOOR.

WELCOME TO VANDERDECKEN,
GLAVE QUESTOR — I AM DR DREW.
SEIZE HIM!

BEFORE HIS NUMBED SENSES COULD RECOVER,
GLAVE WAS SEIZED AND HIS ARM'S FUSION
REACTOR REMOVED — LEAVING THE ENTIRE LIMB
DEAD.

DREW? YOU'RE
NOT A PRISONER?



ON THE CONTRARY, QUESTOR — I AM GRAND MASTER OF THE COMRADES OF THE NINE! AND I DON'T INTEND TAKING ANY CHANCES WITH THAT ARM OF YOURS LIKE POOR BRENT DID.

I DISCOVERED VANDERDECKEN AT THE SAME TIME AS THE STARNOVA PRINCIPLE WHICH SENDS A STAR SUPERNOVA AND THUS DESTROYS AN ENTIRE SYSTEM. THE GOVERNMENT REFUSED ME PERMISSION TO RESEARCH MY STARNOVA PRINCIPLE ANY FURTHER. ALL I NEEDED WAS A FEW FRIENDS... EIGHT IN ALL AND VANDERDECKEN. THE COMRADES OF THE NINE WILL CONTROL THE UNIVERSE.

GANYMEDE IS MY NEXT TEST... YOU WILL WITNESS IT, QUESTOR, BUT FROM GANYMEDE.

GLAVE WAS FLUNG INTO A STRANGE CHAMBER.



GLAVE REMOVED A TOOTH FROM HIS MOUTH — A SHORT-TERM CRYSTAL REACTOR —

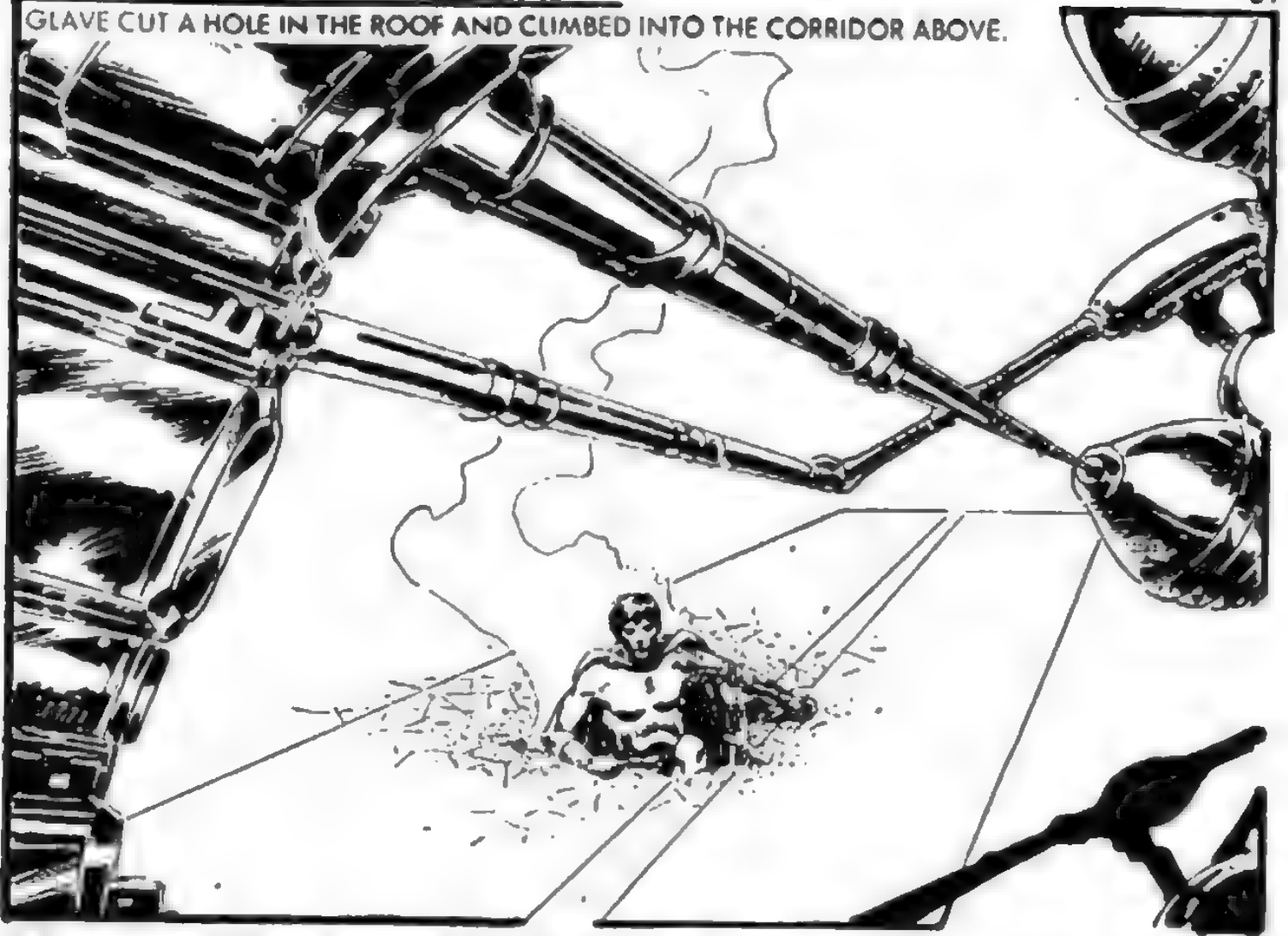
YOU DIDN'T REALLY THINK I'D GO ABOUT WITHOUT A SPARE, DID YOU, DOCTOR?



GANYMEDE IS ONLY A UNIT AWAY ... I HAVE LITTLE TIME TO PREVENT DREW'S MONSTROUS PLAN.



GLAVE CUT A HOLE IN THE ROOF AND CLIMBED INTO THE CORRIDOR ABOVE.



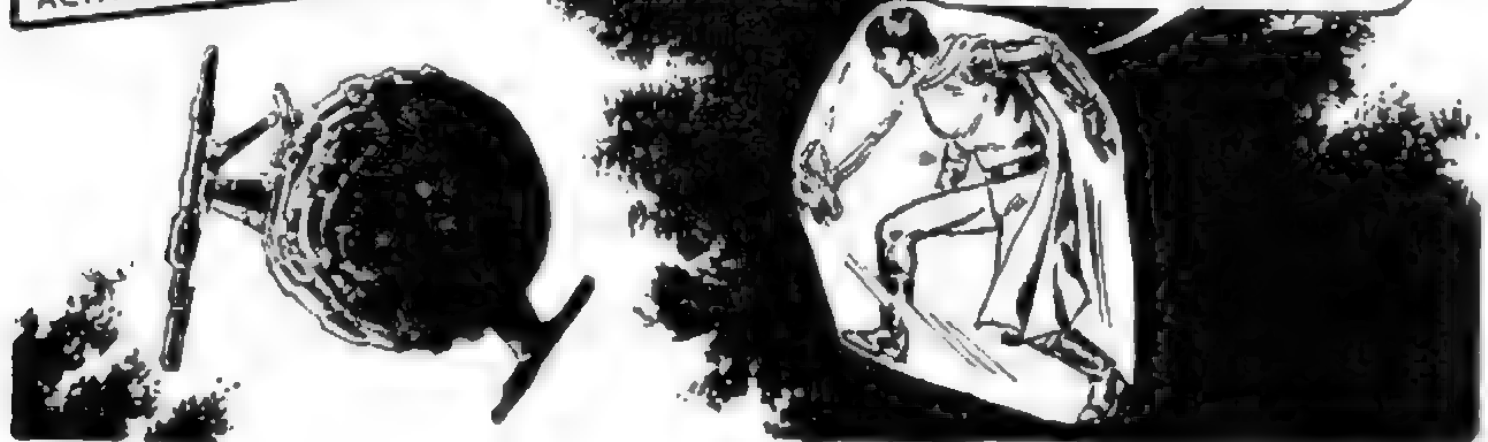
THIS IS A CONTROL CIRCUIT ...



AN ELECTRON FEED FOR AN
INERTIA REACTOR ... AN
OVERDOSE OF NEUTRON WILL
CAUSE HYPERHEATING, AND A
BIG BANG.



COUNT YOUR SECONDS, DOCTOR —
THAT'S ALL YOU'VE GOT LEFT!



A GREAT FLAME BELCHED MANY MILES OUT INTO SPACE — SIGNALLING THE END OF THE VANDERECKEN, DR DREW'S STARNOVA WEAPON, AND THE COMRADES OF THE NINE. THE RADIO ENERGY RELEASED ALERTED EVERY SHIP WITHIN HALF A MILLION LIGHT YEARS.



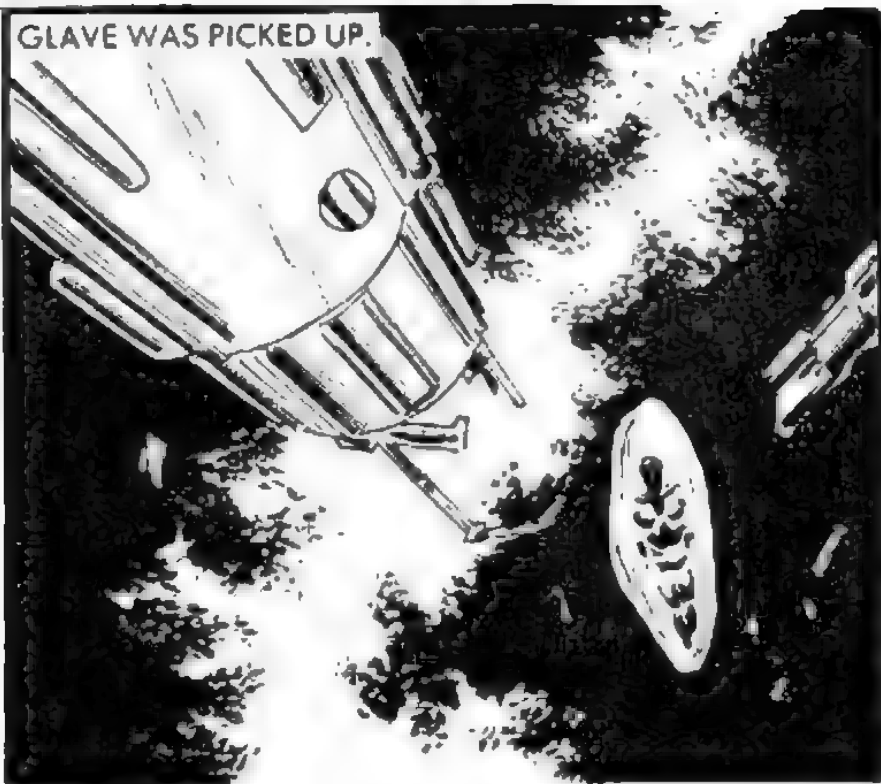
MY SIGNAL BEACON IS SWITCHED ON... NOW I WAIT FOR RESCUE, OR BURIAL.

A FEW UNITS LATER —



OBJECT... BEARING 010
... GREEN 237.

GLAVE WAS PICKED UP.



TAKE ME TO EARTH... NOW!



HYPER JUMPING THROUGH SPACE, GLAVE REACHED EARTH QUICKLY.

COMRADES OF THE NINE...
DR DREW AND GORDON ARE
DEAD — THAT LEAVES SEVEN.



GLAVE RELATED HIS TALE TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

... SO TWO ARE DEAD ...

... THAT LEAVES SEVEN. MY MISSION WAS KNOWN ONLY TO ME AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL, YET SOMEHOW THE PIRATES FOUND OUT AND I WAS ATTACKED. IT IS NO CO-INCIDENCE THAT THERE ARE SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ... IS IT COMRADES OF THE NINE?



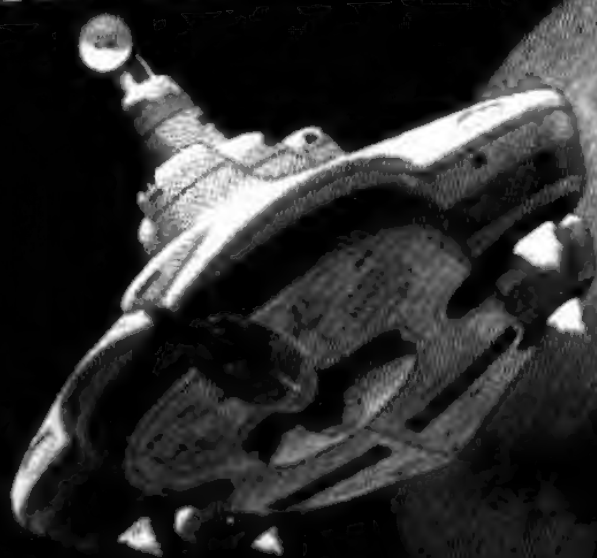
GLAVE QUESTOR'S VENGEANCE WAS COMPLETE, BUT HIS LIFE HAD JUST STARTED. A LIFE DEVOTED TO THE EXTERMINATION OF CORRUPTION, AND THE DESPERATE PEOPLE WHO WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR POWER.



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**DON'T MISS THIS MONTH'S
OTHER ACTION-PACKED
ADVENTURE**

STARBLAZER
SPACE ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 65



NEVERWORLD



**ON SALE
AT YOUR
NEWS-
AGENT'S**

NOW!

STARBLAZERS 13 EARTH SATELLITES

Seasat is used to direct fishermen to more productive areas, to route ships through more favourable waters, and provide oil rigs with weather forecasts. Seasat's scanners showed the Gulf Stream of the Atlantic flowing through the water like a river. The Gulf Stream is warmer than the rest of the sea and super-tankers can travel 5 m.p.h. faster through it than surrounding waters. One company saved one million gallons of tanker fuel in a year by routing its tankers through the Gulf Stream. Principally American, Seasat was inaugurated in June, 1978.

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